

DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

The beautiful Pacific Ocean surrounds the Hawaiian islands and provides some of the most exciting ocean recreation opportunities in the world. Hawai'i as an ocean state has an ancient heritage of using the sea for transportation, for sustenance and for recreation. Today, this cultural heritage endures and supports a \$797 million ocean recreation industry. Our small boat harbors and launch ramps are gateways not only to the Pacific Ocean but to the future as well.

The Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) is responsible for the



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management and administration of statewide ocean recreation programs. This includes 22 small boat harbors, 54 launching ramps, 13 offshore mooring areas, 10 designated ocean water areas, 108 designated ocean recreation management areas, associated aids to navigation throughout the state, and beaches encumbered with easements to provide for public use.

HIGHLIGHTS

The popularity of nearshore sports activities and the expansion of commercial operations continue to challenge the carrying capacity of Hawai'i's ocean resources.

DOBOR concentrates on implementing innovative resource management techniques, and establishing strong community ties. The division encourages citizen input on plans to improve Hawai'i's small boat harbors, and to effectively resolve user conflicts.

The division provided administrative support to two Legislative-mandated advisory groups that were tasked to review and make recommendations on localized boating issues. In 1997, the Community Based Management Task Force was formed to evaluate the feasibility of

establishing a community-based management pilot program for one or more of the state-run small boat harbors. In 1998, the Thrill Craft Advisory Committee was established to review safety issues stemming from the increasing popularity of recreational thrill craft use, and to make recommendations about implementing operator education and certification requirements.

The division also put forth an effort to ensure the highest level of fiscal integrity through better record keeping and tracking of delinquent accounts. This was initiated with the installation of new computers and software to upgrade DOBOR's outdated, semi-automatic accounting system to a real time program. The new technology links all state boating systems statewide and results in timely printing of accounting statements, which in turn fosters more efficient collection of revenues. Harbor agents are now able to obtain current data on all customer accounts from their individual work stations upon demand.

DOBOR also strives to meet the needs of repairing and improving Hawai'i's boating facilities. During FY 1996-97, DOBOR completed 20 construction projects at a cost of over \$1.6 million. In FY 1997-98,

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the division completed another ten projects amounting to nearly \$1 million; and awarded three projects amounting to \$735,463, which are currently under construction. However, there are many more needed construction projects that await funding. It is the division's goal to turn around a backlog of maintenance and repair items at boating facilities that deteriorate at a faster rate than they can be repaired.

The following are accomplishments for FYs 1996-1997 and 1997-1998:

FY 1996-97

- Issued 15,177 Certificates of Number to vessels in the state.
- Investigated and processed 46 reportable accidents.
- Issued 1 revocable use permit.
- Implemented real time boating revenue computer application in O'ahu and Maui districts.
- Produced financial statements for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.
- Completed second phase of clean-up of Ke'ehi Small Boat Harbor's north lagoon waters by the U.S. Navy.
- Reduced length of wait list applicants for slip rentals.
- Began review process for Hanalei and Kāne'ohe Bay rules packets.

- Coordinated the National Safe Boating Week observance in Hawai'i.
- Established partnerships with local boating organizations and Hawai'i's school system to promote boating safety education.

FY 1997-98

- Issued 15,138 Certificates of Number to vessels in the state.
- Investigated and processed 43 reportable accidents.
- Issued 6 revocable use permits.
- Conducted over 20 financial audits of commercial tour boat operators, uncovering \$500,000 in unpaid fees.
- Conducted audits of other commercial operators statewide, increasing boating funds by over \$10,000 per year.
- Received report from State Auditor's office that critiques and supports DOBOR initiatives.
- Initiated concurrent resolution to lease submerged lands to a private ocean activities and recreational facility, Ala Wai, O'ahu.
- Collected over \$700,000 of rents in arrears.
- Assisted with development plans for two new private yacht club facilities on Kaua'i and Hawai'i islands.

- Negotiated long-term lease with Lāna'i Company that will expand facilities at Mānele Small Boat Harbor.
- Completed third phase of clean-up of Ke'ehi Small Boat Harbor's north lagoon waters by the U.S. Navy.
- Continued partnerships with volunteers to conduct statewide harbor clean-ups.
- Exhibited boating safety display booth in various community events and fairs.
- Completed production of hurricane safety manual and accompanying quick reference card.
- Began review process for Wailua River, Sans Souci, and day-use mooring rules packets.
- Began re-writing the boating rules in their entirety.

The following construction/engineering projects were accomplished in FY1996-97 and FY 1997-98:

FY 1996-97

- Replaced Pier 400 at Ke'ehi Small Boat Harbor for \$403,584.
- Constructed comfort station at Māla Wharf for \$411,000.
- Replaced finger piers at Port Allen Small Boat Harbor for \$174,160.

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- Dredged Kīkīaola Small Boat Harbor for \$251,717.
- Repaired navigational aids at Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor for \$86,315.
- Repaired navigational aids at Maunaloa Bay for \$78,600.
- Completed improvements at Wailoa Boat Ramp facilities for \$16,192.
- Repaired parking lot at Wailoa Small Boat Harbor for \$19,800.
- Constructed security gates and fencing at Sand Island for \$17,633.
- Constructed security gates and fencing at Ke'ehi Small Boat Harbor for \$2,582.
- Repaired electrical switch panel at Hale'iwa Small Boat Harbor for \$4,000.
- Repaired service/access roads at Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor for \$24,880.
- Repaired parking lot at Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor for \$24,925.
- Repaired boat launch ramp at Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor for \$4,500.
- Constructed electrical transformer vault at Hale'iwa Small Boat Harbor for \$23,900.
- Completed improvements to comfort station at Kailua-Kona for \$18,800.
- Dredged North Kawaihae Boat basin for \$24,450.
- Repaired fender system at Kailua-Kona Wharf for \$8,000.
- Repaired range lights at Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor for \$24,500.
- Repaired boat ramp at Kīkīaola Small Boat Harbor for \$3,950.
- Dredged North Kawaihae Boat wili Small Boat Harbor for \$12,168.
- Repaired channel marker lights at Waikaea Canal, Kaua'i, for \$16,466.
- Constructed east and west breakwaters at Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor for \$8,742,000.

FY 1997-98

- Replaced loading dock at Hale'iwa boat ramp for \$59,800.
- Completed road access at Maunaloa Bay Boat Ramp for \$67,000.
- Completed miscellaneous improvements at Maunaloa Bay Boat Ramp for \$548,000.
- Completed waterline improvements at Maunaloa Bay Boat Ramp for \$68,647.
- Installed 1-ton chain hoist at Wailoa Small Boat Harbor, makai west pier for \$4,300.
- Repaired electrical service and lighting at Wailoa Small Boat Harbor for \$76,221.
- Dredged North Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor for \$24,990.
- Repaired area lighting and harbor marker lights at Kīkīaola Small Boat Harbor for \$43,199.
- Repaired area lighting at Nāwili-

